

SECRET

IAFM-OPS-HU-SA

30 June 1980

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Possible Compromise of a Relationship Between Two SRI Scientists (Puthoff & Targ) and the U.S. Government (S)

1. (S/NOFORN) Attending a two day conference on camouflage concealment and deception at FTD, Wright Patterson AFB on 25 and 26 June, I, Hartleigh Trent heard a briefer mention a contract the government has with SRI on psychic research. The conference was conducted in a secure facility at the SITK level. The briefer was [redacted] head intelligence officer for the [redacted]

2. (S/NOFORN) [redacted] presented a talk on [redacted] and the type of projects they were involved in around the world. The last subject he introduced was a project that put him in contact with two SRI scientists, Puthoff and Targ. After indicating by expression and gesture that the encounter was strange and somewhat unbelievable he stated that they (someone at SRI) told him that they had a large contract with the U.S. Government on psychic research. He mentioned that MIA and the DIA were involved. He indicated that the results of some of the work appeared startling, however, he appeared to be skeptical about the whole thing.

3. (S/NOFORN) After the presentation I asked him if there was really anything to the things that Puthoff and Targ claim to have accomplished, does it really work? He said it depends upon whether you believe the data or not. If you accept it as fact then the phenomenon represents a tremendous potential. However, if you question the data then there are ways to explain the results. Although there is no proof of fakery, one must consider the possibility. He asked if I knew that Puthoff and Targ were scientologists. I said I had heard that this was probably true. He then said that if they belong to that group there is a possibility that they are pulling the greatest hoax on the U.S. Government and the American public that has ever been perpetrated. [redacted] then turned to answer questions from others. None of the questions were relative to the Puthoff and Targ subject. No one seemed to understand or care about the subject.

4. (S/NOFORN) At no time was the U.S. Army or Grill Flame mentioned during the brief mention of the subject.

Hartleigh Trent
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